

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 ICA-11 TRSE-00 EPA-01
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INFO USMISSION USNATO
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USCINCEUR
CINCUSAFE
HQ 3AF RAF MILDENHALL

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MPOP MILI NATO UK
SUBJECT: FAIRFORD ACTION COMMITTEE (FAC)

REF: LONDON 8725

1. DONALD RUSSETT, CHAIRMAN OF THE COTSWOLD FAIRFORD ACTION COMMITTEE CALLED POL-MIL ATTACHE ON 21 JUNE TO ADVISE US THAT HE (POSSIBLY ACCOMPANIED BY A MR. S.D.R. NEAME, SECRETARY TO THE FAC) PLANS TO VISIT THE U.S. TO MEET WITH ENVIRONMENTALIST GROUPS, SUCH AS THE FRIENDS OF THE EARTH, TO LOBBY FOR SUPPORT IN THE U.S. AGAINST DEPLOYMENT OF KC-135 TANKERS TO FAIRFORD.
2. RUSSETT SAID HIS VISIT WOULD BE CONDUCTED IN AN ORDERLY, PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESSLIKE MANNER. HE EMPHASIZED THAT WHILE NO DECISION HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED BY HMG, HE AND THE FAC ARE CONVINCED THAT FAIRFORD IS THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MOST LIKELY PLACE TO BE SELECTED BY MOD.

3. IF THIS IS SO, RUSSETT HAS SAID ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS THAT HE WANTS "AMERICANS TO KNOW" THAT THE "MODERATION" WITH WHICH FAC HAS SO FAR CONDUCTED ITS CAMPAIGN MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO CONCEAL THE DEPTH AND STRENGTH OF FEELING IN THE COTSWOLDS ABOUT THIS MATTER.

RUSSETT WARNED THAT THE ISSUE IS AN "INFLAMMABLE" ONE AND CARRIED THE DANGER OF BECOMING TINGED WITH ANTI-AMERICAN EMOTIONS. RESPONSIBLE LEADERSHIP IN THE FAC WOULD DO ITS BEST TO CONTROL ANY OUTBURST OF ANTI-AMERICANISM, HE SAID.

4. WE INFORMED THE MOD OF RUSSETT'S PLANS AND THEIR REACTION IS TO RECOMMEND THAT WE DO NOTHING TO HINDER OR HELP THE VISIT, PARTICULARLY AS RUSSETT DOES NOT INTEND TO SEEK MEETINGS WITH USG OFFICIALS. ALSO, MOD REMAINS FIRM IN ITS CONVICTION THAT WHEN THE FACTS ARE MADE PUBLIC, THE SELECTION OF FAIRFORD AS THE MOST SUITABLE OF THE CHOICES WILL STAND UP TO THE ATTACKS OF THE ENVIRONMENTALISTS.

BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 24 jun 1978
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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